

## PROCEEDINGS IN CONGRESS.

The Senate Preparing to Pass the Union Pacific Extension Bill—The Government Very Generous.

The House in Committee of the Whole on Private Calendar—Message on the "Alert"

## FORTY-EIGHTH CONGRESS.

## The Senate.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 30.—Mr. Beck presented a memorial from a number of naval officers protesting against the resolution giving the thanks of Congress to Commander Sholey and Lieutenant Emery. The memorialists say the resolution would advance these gentlemen one grade, and this advancement would affect all officers now standing above them on the list of their respective ranks. They say that while "not wishing to detract from the merits of these most excellent and worthy officers we would respectfully represent that their services in the Greely expedition were not of a character which entitles them to such a marked distinction and advantage over their comrades."

Mr. Hoar, from the Committee on Judiciary, reported favorably a resolution providing that the two Houses of Congress be assembled in the hall of the House, February 11, to count the electoral vote. Mr. Hoar called up the House resolution of similar import, and after amending it to correspond with the Senate resolution it was agreed to. The amendment increases the number of tellers.

Mr. Hoar asked unanimous consent to take up the Pacific Railroad bill. He said it was an extremely important bill. It undertook to deal with a vast government property, or indebtedness to the Government, and undertook to remove from further discussion a great many complicated questions. The bill was one that excited a good deal of interest in the country. Mr. Hoar supposed he was not saying anything that would be disputed when he said it had created a large interest among stock brokers. Newspapers were full of charges and counter-charges regarding it, and while he would make no charge against the press of the country as a body, some of the statements were, of course, inspired by the interests of speculative dealers in stock. The bill, Mr. Hoar added, had not been stimulated nor instigated by any Railroad Company, but was the result of an original investigation by the Senate Judiciary Committee, which had looked very carefully into the whole subject. He did not wish to pass the bill to a vote to-day, but would like to have the bill and accompanying report read, when he would make a short statement on the subject and then propose to let the bill stand over till to-morrow.

The bill and report were then read. Mr. Hoar then continued his remarks. After referring to the evils growing out of the early management of the road, he said that now the stock of the Pacific Railroad had almost wholly changed hands. It was now largely held by people in humble stations or spheres, and trustees of charitable and educational institutions and savings banks that held and managed the funds of such persons and institutions. Mr. Adams, the present President, had made an analysis of the stock. From such analysis it appears that only about one-sixth of the entire stock was now held by people who could be supposed to hold it for speculative or stock jobbing purposes. It did not, therefore, seem to Mr. Hoar to be just or right for the United States to deal with the question of the present condition of the Pacific Railroad by constantly re-embanking and clogging against them faults or wrongs doing twenty years ago. The roads should be dealt with to-day with absolute justice, taking care, of course, that the interests of the Government were properly looked after. Mr. Hoar continued at great length in explanation, and in the advocacy of the committee's bill. His argument for the most part was similar to that used in the report accompanying the bill, heretofore published.

Mr. Garland said the bill, as now presented, was substantially the same as that reported by himself last summer for consideration by the Judiciary Committee, except that, for reasons then stated to the Senate, the Union Pacific had been omitted from its provisions. One particular in which the present bill differed from the former was in applying a remedy for the defect found in existing legislation regarding the payment by the roads of the current interest.

After a brief discussion, participated in by Messrs. Hoar, Sewell and O'Conor, the hour of 2 o'clock arriving the matter went over, and the Chair laid before the Senate the Inter-State Commerce bill, on which Mr. Pugh addressed the Senate at some length. He favored the Commission bill and opposed the Reagan bill.

At the conclusion of Mr. Pugh's remarks the Senate went into executive session, and when the doors were reopened, adjourned.

## The House.

The House was called to order by the Clerk, who read a communication from Speaker Carlisle designating Mr. Blackburn as Speaker pro tem. for the day. The Chair laid before the House a communication from the Secretary of the Navy in response to the House resolution calling for information concerning the recent collision of the "Tallapoosa." Referred.

The Secretary stated that the steamer was on her regular freighting cruise.

Mr. Townsend reported the Postoffice appropriation bill. Referred to the Committee of the Whole.

The House then went into Committee of the Whole on the private calendar.

When the Committee of the House had passed half a dozen private bills the Speaker laid before the House the following message from the President to the House of Representatives:

When the expedition for the relief of Lieutenant Greely and party was being prepared in the early part of the year 1884, and a vessel of suitable size was being made the ship Alert, then the property of Great Britain, and which had been the advance ship of the expedition under Sir George Narce, was found to be particularly fit for the intended service. This government immediately offered to purchase that ship, upon which Her Majesty's Government generously consented her to the United States, and refused to accept any payment whatever for the vessel. The Alert rendered important and timely service in the expedition for the relief of Greely and party, which in its result proved satisfactory to the government and people of this country.

I am of the opinion that the Alert should now be returned to Her Majesty's Government with suitable action for its generous and graceful action in promptly putting the ship at the service of the United States, and therefore recommend that authority may be given me by Congress to carry out this purpose.

The message was referred.

Also a communication from the Secretary of State recommending the passage of a joint resolution to permit military officers to be sent as military instructors to Corea in com-

pliance with a request of the Corea Government. Recess till 3 p. m. was taken to consider the Pension bill.

The House at the evening session passed thirty pension bills, and adjourned until to-morrow.

Mr. Ruskin thinks there is a great future for American art, but he hardly realizes the enormous demand over here for Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup. Indeed he doesn't.

Jeff Davis and Mexican Pensions. [Communicated.]

Will the Sentinel give space to a daughter of a soldier of the Mexican war for a word on the Mexican Pension bill, which is agitating the legislative bodies of the country? An opinion coming from a woman—one of the proscribed of the Nation—can do no harm to the great Union.

Now, I understand this Mexican Pension bill to be for the Mexican soldiers for their services in the Mexican war and not for anything done before or after that war. If this be true, why, in the name of manhood and justice, does not Congress pass the bill just as if that old Confederate fossil, Jefferson Davis, was dead? He does not care a pin for the money, and that is all there is practically in the question. The sentiment supposed to attach to it is solely in the minds of the pigmy statesmen, whose much ado about it is simply for appearance sake.

Both political parties will concede, in answer to a direct question, that the War of the Rebellion is over, though in the light of recent events it is difficult for thinking ones to believe their concession sincere, when Congress finds it so hard to frame a pension bill, merely because it would like to leave out from its provisions one or two men who are politically dead.

The Sentinel of Thursday reports Lieutenant Governor Manson as saying before the Indiana Senate that Jefferson Davis was wounded in the battle of Buena Vista, but that he never has and never will draw a pension. Suppose Mr. Davis, while a United States Senator, prior to 1861, had drawn a pension, which he could have done without asking for it—would anything done by him subsequent to 1861 have voided what he had drawn? Some who were in the Confederate army are now drawing Mexican pensions.

I am not defending Jeff Davis; but I recognize that he was a Mexican soldier and that he is one of my countrymen, whom I admire more than any other countrymen in Congress doing a very small thing to consume the people's time, which is the people's money, in tedious efforts to make a law which shall deprive a single man from the benefit of its provisions—a man, too, who does not want and has never wanted its benefits?

I do hope there is some Northern statesman possessing the manhood to decry this petty measure. Or if there is none to do this, then will not some one at once go to see old man Davis and induce a pledge from him that he will never apply for his pension, and lay that pledge before Congress, so that the bill can pass without the insertion of the name of Davis, and that coming generations may be saved from blushing for their fathers having inserted it? We have too many of these individual measures by Congress. It is now trying on the one hand to specially benefit Grant, the great American fighter, and on the other to specially debar from what rightfully is his own the arch traitor, as Jefferson Davis is supposed to be, though many full as culpable as he are holding high places at this time. It is the United States and not Jeff Davis who will be compromised by such an act of legislation.

Mrs. M. F. McD.

Indianapolis, January 30.

After Twenty Years.

Milroy, Midlin County, Pennsylvania—Mrs. John Gemmill in 1864 injured her spine and was partially paralyzed for nearly twenty years. She was advised to use St. Jacobs Oil, the conqueror of pain. The first application gave instantaneous relief. Before the second bottle was exhausted she was cured.

That Poisoning Case.

READING, Pa., Jan. 30—Two more members of the Krall family, who were mysteriously poisoned at Bunker Hill, have died, and the remaining three are considered beyond recovery.

No Long Words.

There is no call to use long words in speaking of Parker's Tonic. It tells on its merits and cures by its virtues. No family can make a mistake by keeping a bottle in the house. For coughs, colds and all troubles of the bowels, stomach, liver and kidneys, it is exactly what you want. For yourself, your wife and children.

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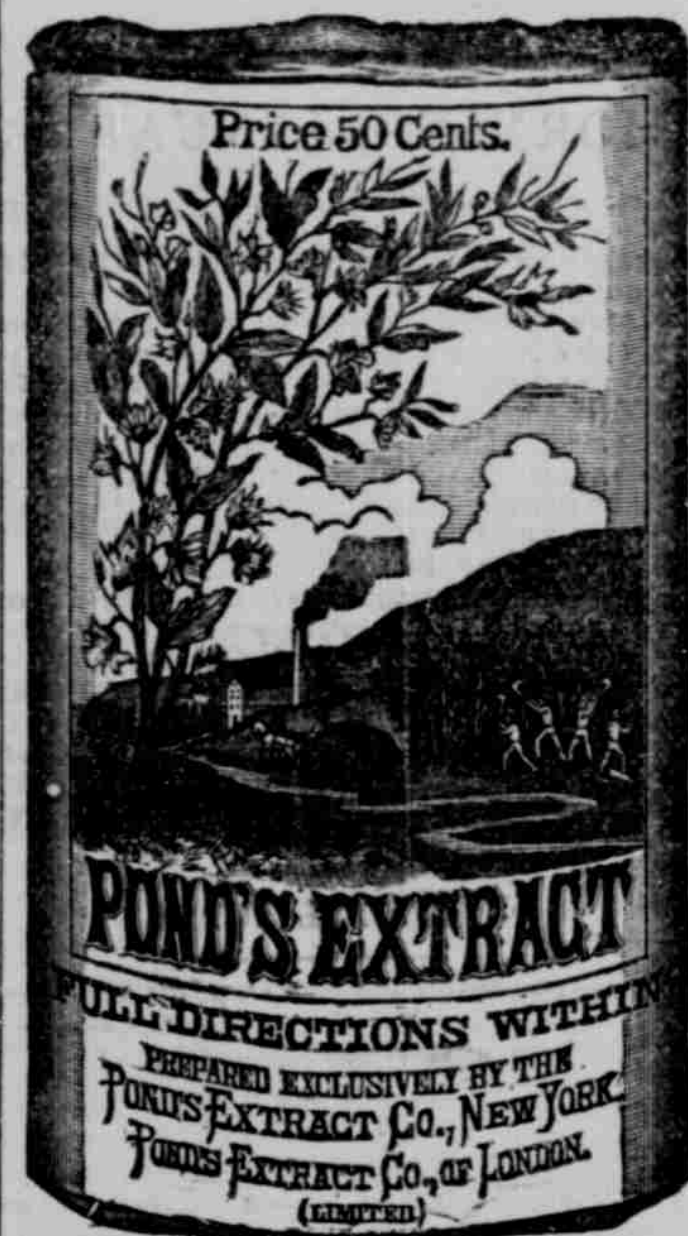
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W. L. BRYCE, JR., Buffalo, N. Y.

Just Close Enough.

"Have a close shave, sir?" "No, thanks, not very close. At least not quite so close as the last Presidential election."

Your correspondent had just encoined himself luxuriously in a chair in the neat barber shop, No. 1310 Morgan street, St. Louis, and was sinking into dreams, when the above question and the necessary answer broke the spell.

"That election did go away down to the skin, sir, and no mistake," said Barber Brown, gently rubbing the creamy lather through the tough stubble on my chin; "I had half a notion to put a sign, 'election shaves,' outside of the door, but concluded not to."

"To change the subject," said I, "if somebody would invent an arrangement which would relieve a barber from the fatigue of standing, and make him as comfortable as the man he is shaving, what a blessing it would be to the profession, wouldn't it?"

"I don't ask nor expect that," replied Mr. Brown, but not long ago I had a notion in my back, and then standing up at the chair for the hour was too high work. In fact I hardly knew what I should do. Oh, yes; I tried those things in all their varieties, and plasters, too, by the dozen. Good! did you say? No, my trouble was too deep for them. Finally one day Mr. F. G. Baumitz, of Maestbrook's Pharmacy, in this city, recommended Benson's Caprine Plaster. All right, says I, I'll try them, and I did. Help me! Well I should say they did. Depend on it there is something scientific about those plasters. They quieted the pain, warmed my back most pleasantly, and in a short time made it elastic and strong as ever. I venture to say that no other external remedy on earth can compare with them. Rheumatism has got to go with Benson's plasters are around. say rum? Yes sir."

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